THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) A Programme for providing financial support for electrification of those remote unelectrified census villages and unelectrified hamlets of electrified census villages in various States, where grid extension is either not feasible or not cost effective and which are not taken up under the Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojna, is being implemented by the Ministry. Such villages are provided basic facilities for lighting/electricity through various renewable energy sources including solar energy. From 2005-06, support is provided for those remote villages/hamlets which are identified by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) for coverage through renewable energy sources.

Central Financial Assistance of upto 90% of the costs, subject to pre-specified maximum amounts for each technology, is provided for projects approved under the programme.

(c) As of October 2007, 3338 remote unelectrified census villages and 830 remote unelectrified hamlets have been covered under the programme. Further, projects are under implementation in 1866 remote unelectrified census villages and 638 remote unelectrified hamlets in various States.

National rating system for green buildings

131. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would be finalizing a national rating system for green buildings shortly;

(b) if so, the broad objectives thereof;

(c) whether all the Ministries and private research organizations are to be roped into the said system;

(d) whether the proposed system would be applicable to all buildings typologies and across climatic zones; and

(e) what would be the advantages of the above system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A National Rating System for rating the performance of Green Buildings has been developed. The broad objective of the Rating System is to catalyze the speedy adoption of building techniques, technologies and procedures that will promote design and construction of energy efficient and sustainable buildings in the country.

(c) The National Rating System has been developed through interactions with various stakeholders including private developers, academic and research institutions, practicing architects and Government Ministries and Agencies. It will function under the advice and direction of eminent architects, engineers, builders, experts and officials from concerned Government Departments and Agencies.

(d) The National Rating System would be applicable to major building typologies across all climatic zones of the country.

(e) The advantages of the Rating System include:

(i) reduction in energy consumption without sacrificing comfort levels

(ii) promoting use of renewable energy systems and devices

(iii) reduction of air and water pollution

(iv) reduction in water consumption

(v) minimizing waste generation

(vi) lifecycle cost savings through reduced energy consumption

(vii) preservation of natural resources and improvement of human habitat.

Grid power plants generating power from renewables

132. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) in which States the plants generating 10,500 MW grid power from renewables are located;

(b) how many such plants are located in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra and their power generating capacity;

(c) the perspective planning for setting up of more such plants during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) whether the districts like Yavatmal would get such a plant, where maximum cases of farmers, suicides are happening?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Grid-interactive renewable power plants with an aggregate installed capacity of about 10,985 MW as on 30.9.2007 are located in 31 States/UTs as per the detailed break-up given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Five such plants with an aggregate capacity of 21.25 MW are located in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. Details of the same are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) The 11th Plant proposals of the Ministry envisage grid-interactive renewable power capacity addition of 14,500 MW during the plan period.

(d) State/District-wise allocations for renewable power plants are not made at the Central level. Such plants are set up mostly by private entrepreneurs, based on techno-economic considerations.